



# The New Castle Crier

The Official Newsletter of New Castle City

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Stay informed

[de.gov/coronavirus](http://de.gov/coronavirus)



## City News

The next Regular City Council meeting is 7 p.m.,

Tues., June 9th

Via Zoom Conferencing

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City Offices will be closed Mon., May 25th in observance of Memorial Day

Revised Trash Pick-up Schedule

Reg. Pick-Up Revised Pick-Up

Mon., May 25 Tues., May 26

Tues., May 26 Wed., May 27

Thurs., May 28 Yard Waste

Fri., May 29 Citywide Recycle

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Public Works Starting Summer Hours June 1st 6:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Beginning Monday, June 1st

Public Works will begin their collection routes at

6:00 a.m. so plan

accordingly to get your

trash, yard waste and

recycle out for pick up.

**Covid-19 Update: City services continue to function properly, and provide the basic services and protections expected by our residents during these unprecedented times. The Mayor, City Council President, City Administrator, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Municipal Services General Manager continue to monitor the situation.**



City of New Castle offices remain open for City personnel, with many working remotely to promote distancing recommendations. While offices are closed to the general public through at least May 31, 2020 City services continue. Building Permits and other City services are available online or by calling 322-9801.

In conjunction with the recommendations put forth in the State of Emergency mandated by the Governor, along with the recommendations by the CDC, the City has cancelled all public events through the end of May.

While many of our signature events have been cancelled the City continues to monitor this situation to facilitate other events scheduled throughout the summer.

**Tall Ships & Concerts in Battery Park:** The City is hopeful that the Tall Ship visits and the concerts will be able to take place this summer. Look for updated information in next months Crier, and watch the City's website and Facebook page for more updated information as it becomes available.

**Battery Park Half-Day Camp:** The City is working with New Castle County to determine a start date for the Battery Park Half-Day Camp. The County Parks and Recreation Dept. is monitoring the situation and will announce updated start dates when they are determined. Updated information will be posted at [www.newcastlecity.delaware.gov/parks-recreation](http://www.newcastlecity.delaware.gov/parks-recreation).

We will continue to update our website and Facebook page with current information; or you can call the City offices with any questions at 322-9801. [www.newcastlecity.delaware.gov](http://www.newcastlecity.delaware.gov).

## MSC REDUCES ELECTRIC RATES

### AFTER COST OF SERVICE STUDY RESULTS



Utility Financial Solutions (UFS) presented a financial projection to the Municipal Services Commission (MSC) at their January 2020 monthly meeting and

recommended the electric rates be reduced and water rates increased. The consultant was asked to develop a rate design to be reviewed at the March 2020 meeting. The March meeting had to be canceled due to the State of Emergency declared by Governor Carney as a result of COVID-19. During this national crisis it became apparent that MSC customers have been financially affected by this crisis and after review, the Commissioners voted to approve a 1% reduction in electric rates effective with the May 2020 utility bills. The recommended water rate increase will be considered at a later date.

The MSC cares about all their customers and hopes everyone is being safe during these unusual times. Please feel free to contact the MSC at 302-323-2330 if you have any concerns

*New Castle – The First Capital of the First State!*

The most picturesque and historic waterfront community on the East Coast!

## Trustees Educational Grant Fund

Application Packets are available Online at  
[www.trusteesncc.org/grants](http://www.trusteesncc.org/grants)

The "Trustees of New Castle Common Educational Grant Fund" was established in 1983 for eligible residents of the City New Castle.

An applicant must be a senior in high school or a recent high school graduate who is entering freshman year in an accredited undergraduate college or university as a full-time student in the coming September.

The grants are awarded to **full-time residents** of the City of New Castle. High school seniors must provide a high school transcript and an acceptance letter from a college or university in order to be considered for the grant. If the applicant is a dependent, the parent must be a resident of the City of New Castle.

Funded applicants from previous years who continue to be a **student in good standing** are invited to reapply.

Application packets are available from the Trustees of New Castle Commons, 201 Delaware Street, New Castle or online at [www.trusteesncc.org/grants](http://www.trusteesncc.org/grants). Please call 322-2809 with any questions about the process or about residency in the City of New Castle.

**Please note the application and necessary information must be received by the Education Grant Committee no later than July 1, 2020.**

## Code Enforcement Corner

**Code Enforcement** helps to maintain and improve the quality of life of New Castle City residents by administering an unbiased enforcement program to correct violations of City codes. Complaint forms are available in the City office, on the City website [newcastlecity.delaware.gov](http://newcastlecity.delaware.gov); or by calling 322.9801.

**Complaints are handled on a confidential basis.**

**POOLS:** All pools capable of holding more than two feet of water (including above-ground pools) require a building permit. Swimming pools must be maintained in a safe, clean and sanitary condition.

**MOSQUITO CONTROL:** The City of New Castle will be cooperating with the State of Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife to maximize mosquito control in the area in an effort to combat mosquito borne diseases. The City will aggressively enforce City health codes that require the elimination of standing water, such as in tires or buckets.

**GRASS MAINTENANCE:** No person being the owner or possessor of a developed or undeveloped parcel one acre in size or less shall permit grasses or weeds to grow more than six inches high. Property owners are responsible for the maintenance and repair of sidewalks and driveways. Keep sidewalks clear of grass and weeds.



## THIEVES DON'T QUARANTINE



So much has changed in our lives due to the COVID-19 virus. One thing that hasn't changed.....

Thieves look for opportunity.

Please lock your car doors and remove all valuables from your car. If you see someone suspicious around your car or a neighbor's car, please call 911.

The FCC reports that Covid-19 phone scams are on the increase. Text and phone scams offering home virus testing kits, promoting bogus cures, selling health insurance, and offering help with government payments have been reported.

The FCC offers the following tips to help you protect yourself from scams, including coronavirus scams; go to [fcc.gov/covid-scams](http://fcc.gov/covid-scams) for more information on these scams.

- Never share your personal or financial information via email, text messages, or over the phone.
- Be cautious if you're being pressured to share any information or make a payment immediately.



## Library Resources and Services During Covid-19

The Library may be closed for now, but they are still working hard to deliver service to you. Visit their Facebook page for Facebook Live Storytime, and other virtual events.

Their Facebook page has the most up to date information on what is happening at the library, [www.facebook.com/NewCastleDEPublicLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/NewCastleDEPublicLibrary).

Check their website at [www.Nccde.org/Newcastle](http://www.Nccde.org/Newcastle) for virtual programming by libraries throughout the state, and take advantage of the many programs offered.

If you don't have internet access you can drive to the library to use our Parking Lot Hotspot (nccde\_public) while sitting in your car, using your own device. Please practice social distancing by staying in your car.



The 2020 Census is happening now. You can respond online, by phone or mail. [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov)